

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 131526

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY ARA;WILLIAM LUERS/D:WCHRISTOPHER

APPROVED BY D:WARREN CHRISTOPHER

S/S :PTARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 131526

NODIS

BOGOTA EYES ONLY FOR CHARGE, BRASILIA EYES ONLY FOR TODMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PDIP,CO

SUBJECT:AGREEMENT FOR CABRANES

FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. WE WERE INFORMED OVER THE WEEKEND HERE IN WASHINGTON THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA GAVE AGREEMENT TO JOSE CABRANES AS AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA. IN THE SECRETARY'S AND MY DISCUSSIONS WITH CABRANES, FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION, CABRANES DECIDED THAT FOR PERSONAL REASONS, HE IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THE SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT ARE CONSIDERING ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS FOR MR. CABRANES.

2. TODAY, DURING A CALL ON ME BY THE COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR

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DESIGNATE, VIRGILIO BARCO, I CONVEYED THE FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE:

-- WE ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR AGREEMENT FOR A CANDIDATE, (CABRANES) TO BE AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA WHOM WE THOUGHT WAS VERY OUTSTANDING.

-- WE APPRECIATE THE RESPONSE WE RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA FOR AGREEMENT FOR MR. CABRANES.

-- WE WERE SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED YESTERDAY THAT MR. CABRANES, FOR PERSONAL REASONS, DECIDED HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT.

-- WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER, INCLUDING HIS DROPPING BY TO TALK TO MR. CABRANES AT YALE LAST WEEKEND AND LEAVING A PLEASANT NOTE WHEN HE WAS NOT IN.

3. BARCO RESPONDED THAT HE TOO WAS DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE HE HAD MADE INQUIRIES AND FOUND THAT CABRANES WAS AN EXCELLENT CHOICE WITH HIGH CREDENTIALS. WHEN I SAID WE WOULD SEEK TO FIND SOMEONE EQUALY OUTSTANDING, BARCO RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DO SO.

4. WE ARE EXAMINING CANDIDATES AND WILL SOON BE BACK TO THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA WITH A REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT FOR A NEW CANDIDATE.

5. FOR TODMAN: PLEASE BE CERTAIN MRS. CARTER AND MRS. VANCE ARE INFORMED BEFORE ARRIVING IN COLOMBIA. VANCE

SECRET

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